

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.**

Claims:

1. .

1 A method of making a tamper-indicating closure that comprises the step of:
2 integrally molding a closure of plastic as-molded construction that includes a base
3 wall having a peripheral skirt with an at least one internal thread for affixing the closure to a
4 container, a tamper-indicating band connected to an edge of said skirt, a stop element extending
5 from said band, and a plurality of circumferentially spaced drain openings extending axially
6 through said stop element,

7 wherein said step of molding said closure is such that:

8 (a) a plurality of circumferentially spaced channels are formed extending axially
9 through said thread, at least some of said channels being axially aligned with said drain openings,
10 (b) said drain openings are uniformly circumferentially spaced around said closure,
11 and said channels are non-uniformly circumferentially spaced around said closure, and
12 (c) said thread has a lead-in adjacent to said base wall, and said channels are at lesser
13 circumferential spacing from each other at said lead-in than spaced from said lead-in.

2. .

1 The method set forth in claim 1 wherein said at least one internal thread comprises
2 a double thread having diametrically opposed lead-ins, and wherein said channels are at lesser
3 spacing from each other at said diametrically opposed lead-ins than spaced from said lead-ins.

3.

1 The method set forth in claim 1 wherein said stop element comprises a stop flange
2 that extends axially and radially from an end of said band, said drain openings being disposed
3 at a juncture of said flange and said band.

4.

1 A closure made in accordance with the method set forth in claim 1.

5.

1 A method of making a beverage container that comprises the step of:
2 integrally molding a container that includes a cylindrical finish with an open
3 mouth, at least one external thread, an external circumferential bead on a side of said thread
4 remote from said mouth for cooperating with tamper-indicating means on a closure, and an
5 external circumferential flange spaced from said bead on a side of said bead remote from said
6 thread,

7 wherein said step of molding said container is such that said bead comprises a
8 plurality of circumferentially spaced bead segments separated from each other by circumferential
9 gaps, and said flange includes a plurality of circumferentially spaced drain elements each axially
10 aligned with a corresponding gap in said bead.

6.

1 The method set forth in claim 5 wherein said drain elements comprise drain
2 grooves in a surface of said flange axially facing said bead, each groove having a bottom surface
3 that is angulated radially outwardly and axially away from said bead.

7.

1 The container set forth in claim 6 wherein said drain elements comprise drain slots
2 extending axially through said flange.

8.

1 The container set forth in claim 7 wherein said finish has an outer cylindrical wall
2 surface, said external thread, said stop bead and said external support flange extending radially
3 outwardly from said wall surface, said gaps in said stop bead and said slots through said support
4 flange comprising portions of said wall surface.

9.

 The method set forth in claim 8 wherein said finish has a cylindrical outer wall
surface, said at least one external thread, said external bead segments and said external flange
extending radially outwardly from said surface, said gaps and said slots comprising portions of
said wall surface.

10.

1 A beverage container made in accordance with the method set forth in claim 5.

11.

1 A method of making a package that includes:

2 (a) providing a container having a finish with at least one external thread and an
3 external bead disposed beneath said thread,

4 said external bead on said finish a plurality of circumferentially spaced bead
5 segments separated from each other by circumferential gaps,

6 said finish having a cylindrical outer wall surface, said external thread and said
7 external bead segments extending radially outwardly from said surface, said gaps comprising
8 portions of said wall surface,

9 said finish further including an external support flange beneath said bead and a
10 plurality of circumferentially spaced drain elements on said flange, each of said drain elements
11 being axially aligned with a corresponding gap in said bead, and

12 (b) providing a closure that includes:

13 a base wall having a peripheral skirt with at least one internal thread for securing
14 said closure to said external thread on said container finish,

15 a tamper-indicating band frangibly connected to an edge of said skirt,

16 a stop element on said band for abutment with said bead on said finish,

17 a plurality of circumferentially spaced openings extending axially through said
18 stop element or through said band or through both said stop element and said band, and

12.

1 The method set forth in claim 11 wherein said drain openings are uniformly
2 circumferentially spaced around said closure, and said channels are non-uniformly
3 circumferentially spaced around said closure.

13.

1 The method set forth in claim 12 wherein said internal thread has a lead-in
2 adjacent to said base wall, and wherein said channels are at lesser circumferential spacing from
3 each other at said lead-in than spaced from said lead-in.

14.

1 The method set forth in claim 13 wherein said at least one internal thread
2 comprises a double thread having diametrically opposed lead-ins, and wherein said channels are
3 at lesser spacing at said diametrically opposed lead-ins than spaced from said lead-ins.

15.

16.

1 The method set forth in claim 11 wherein said drain elements comprise drain
2 grooves in a surface of said flange axially facing said bead, each groove having a bottom surface
3 that is angulated radially outwardly and axially away from said bead.

17.

1 The method set forth in claim 11 wherein said drain elements comprise drain slots
2 extending axially through said flange.

18.

1 The method set forth in claim 17 wherein said finish has an outer cylindrical wall
2 surface, said external thread, said stop bead and said external support flange extending radially
3 outwardly from said wall surface, said gaps in said stop bead and said slots through said support
4 flange comprising portions of said wall surface.

19.

1 A method of making a closure and container package that includes:
2 (a) providing a container having a cylindrical finish with an open mouth, at least one
3 external thread, an external circumferential bead defined by a plurality of circumferentially
4 spaced bead segments separated from each other by circumferential gaps, an external flange
5 spaced from said bead on a side of said bead remote from said mouth, and a plurality of
6 circumferentially spaced drain elements on said flange each axially aligned with a corresponding
7 gap in said bead, and

8 (b) providing a closure that includes a base wall having a peripheral skirt with at least
9 one internal thread for securing said closure to said external thread on said container finish, a
10 tamper-indicating band frangibly connected to an edge of said skirt, and a stop element extending
11 from said band for abutment with said bead.

20.

1 The method set forth in claim 19 wherein said drain elements comprise drain
2 grooves in a surface of said flange axially facing said bead, each groove having a bottom surface
3 that is angulated radially outwardly and axially away from said bead.

21.

1 The method set forth in claim 19 wherein said drain elements comprise drain slots
2 extending axially through said flange.

22.

1 The method set forth in claim 21 wherein said finish has an outer cylindrical wall
2 surface, said external thread, said stop bead and said external support flange extending radially
3 outwardly from said wall surface, said gaps in said stop bead and said slots through said support
4 flange comprising portions of said wall surface.

23.

1 The method set forth in claim 19 wherein said closure includes a first plurality of
2 circumferentially spaced channels extending axially through said internal thread and a second
3 plurality of circumferentially spaced drain openings extending through said stop element, at least
4 some of said channels being axially aligned with said drain openings.

24.

1 The method set forth in claim 23 wherein said drain openings are uniformly
2 circumferentially spaced around said closure, and said channels are non-uniformly
3 circumferentially spaced around said closure.

25.

1 The method set forth in claim 24 wherein said thread has a lead-in adjacent to said
2 base wall, and wherein said channels are at lesser circumferential spacing from each other at said
3 lead-in than spaced from said lead-in.

26.

1 The method set forth in claim 25 wherein said at least one internal thread
2 comprises a double thread having diametrically opposed lead-ins, and wherein said channels are
3 at lesser spacing from each other at said diametrically opposed lead-ins than spaced from said
4 lead-ins.